E/CONF.39/D/180
SUMMARY
12 Nov.1962
ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LESS DEVELOPED AREAS

SUMMARY

Agenda Item: D.2.3

Sudan

MODERNIZATION OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY IN SUDAN

By El Tahir Ahmed El SHEIKH,
Assistant Inspector,
Industrial Section,
Ministry of Commerce,
Industry and Supply

Papers have been contributed to the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas as working papers for that Conference. They are published as presented by the contributors, and the contents and the views expressed are those of the contributors. (See notes overleaf.)

NOTES

1. Papers selected for inclusion in General Sessions will be available at the Conference in the following official languages of the United Nations: English, French, Russian and Spanish.

2. Papers selected for inclusion in Specialized Sessions will be available at the Conference in only one of the above official languages.

3. Summaries of all papers, as submitted by contributors, will be available at the Conference in the following official languages of the United Nations: English, French, Russian and Spanish.

4. Papers and summaries will not be available for general distribution in advance of the Conference. They will be published in advance in limited quantities only for the use of delegations of participating governments and of other authorized participants. Post-Conference publication and general distribution of the Conference Proceedings will follow United Nations practices as laid down by the United Nations Publications Board.

Modernization of Small Scale Industry in Sudan

by/ El Tahir Ahmed El Sheikh,
Assistant Inspector,
Industrial Section,
Ministry of Commerce,
Industry & Supply)

SUMMARY

History: throughout history of Sudan cottage industries covered a wide range of benificial objects as the traditional artistry and handicrafts handed down from centuries past as produced by craftsmen. All these industries show their originality which appear in their beautiful design.

Later in 1956 the Government of the Sudan after being sure of the presence of raw materials of many industries declared its policy towards the encouragement of local and foreign capital investment in industry, by publishing the Approved Enterprises Act 1956. So since 1956 more than 200 enterprises have been classified as Approved Industries.

The Role of Small Scale Industries

Small scale industries in the Sudan and nearly in any other under-developed country are of vital importance to any development of the country. Their importance lies in giving employment opportunities to large manual power, raising the standard of living and creating a balanced economy of the country by preserving foreign exchange and processing local raw materials as well as maintaining an element of skill within the country. They also help in preservation of traditional arts and skills which represent a precious part of the nation ~~nature~~ cultural heritage.

Problems of Small Scale Industries in the Sudan

The problems of small scale industries in the Sudan are many and varied because these small industries are still under developed due to absence of research of design and of improving the products. The major problems of small scale industries is the availability of raw

materials and spares, as many of the raw materials if found locally are not primarily processed so as to meet the needs of the local industries. Other industries are facing the difficulties in procuring the right type of raw material. Spare parts of the factory machines cannot also be obtained easily. Another problem is also the shortage of the technical labour together with the lack of credit facilities. Also the lack of standardization of product is another problem facing the small industries in the Sudan.

Measures for Improvement and Modernization of Small Scale Industries in the Sudan

The important method is the provision of good raw materials, as well as making the best of the local raw materials so as to meet the needs of some industries. Measures have also to be taken to invite capable technician to instruct and guide local technicians. Also in order to solve the problem some of the Sudanese are sent abroad to receive further training. In addition the Government has established productivity centre under the supervision of two Experts from the International Labour Office. Also the role of the Khartoum Technical Institute and allied branches in this field cannot be denied, because its main function is to train technicians. Further still a Research Institute is to be established in the near future to solve industries problems. Also it is more desirable to form some sort of cooperation between the different small industries according to their needs. Thus the encouragement of this co-operative association will bring the industrialists in line with modern requirements of the market.

S - 1723 E - Nov.1962 - 1,600